

Atty Docket: VASC 1020-2 US

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph [0052] as follows.

[0052] The stent grafts of Figs. 3-5C may be constructed for delivering a biologically active agent, if desired. Such covered, coiled drug delivery stents may be constructed in several ways. One way is to place one or more biologically active agents on one or both of outer and inner surfaces 124A, 124B of the sleeve of material 124 shown in Fig. 3A. A biologically active agent may also be on inner surface 124B or contained within sleeve interior 124C; such agent may be, for example, coated on the stent or may be captured between the stent and inner surface 124B. Another way is to incorporate the agent into graft material 124 to create an agent/material matrix. Such a matrix may be created by using a porous material for graft material 124. The porous graft material is then saturated with a mixture of a carrier, such as water or alcohol, and one or more agents. One way to do so is shown in Fig. 3B. A sleeve of graft material 124 has one end 124F knotted to close off that end while a syringe S is used to fill graft material 124 with the mixture M. When the mixture has fully saturated graft material 124, which is typically evident when the mixture seeps through the pores of graft material 124, the excess amounts of the mixture is drained and the now agent-laden graft material is at least partially dried. As evident from Figs. 3A and 3B, at least part of stent 104A and graft material 124 can move relative to one another. Another method is to manufacture the graft material with one or more agents interspersed therein. The agents may be, for example, microencapsulated to provide a time-release function for the agent. Time release may also be achieved by coating outer surface 124A with an appropriate biodegradable material.